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Isabel's Invitation

A Reading A-Z Read-Aloud Book

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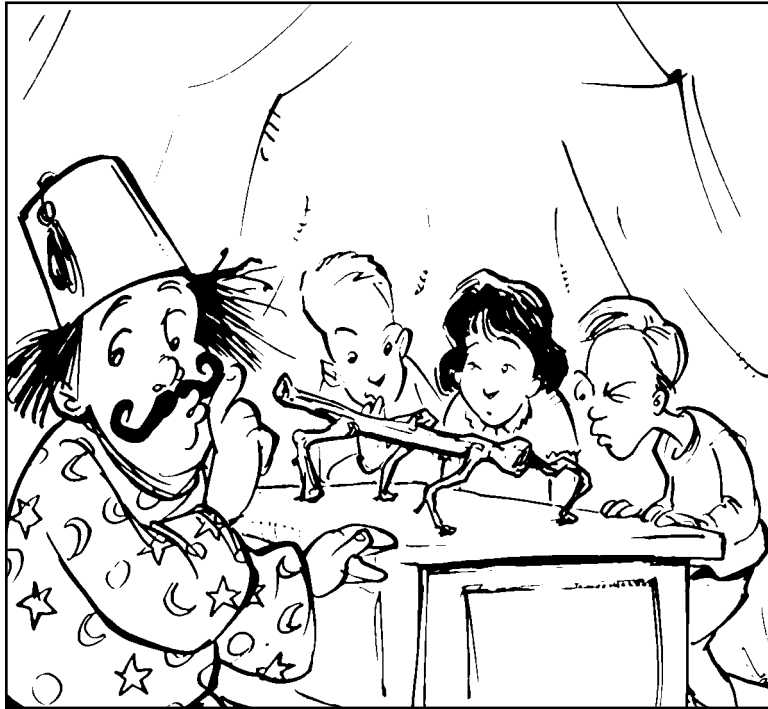
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Written by Joe Slade • Illustrated by A. Spencer

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WORDS USED IN THIS BOOK

High-utility words:

1-100 the, I, was, for, to, you, said, on, and, it, his, they, he, of, that, but, a, in, she, had, at, look, out, we, is, as, with, her, then, up, there, have, little, all, some, what, my, like, me, when, not, one, will, were, this, big, very, went, long, an, into, are, no, just, come, came, your, if, red, from, want, don't, too, know, around, right, where

101-200 away, saw, ran, old, let, their, well, make, here, six, today, who, never, before, eat, first, black, white, give, must, bring, soon, has, our, made, find, ate, only, gave, us, funny, fast, say, why, live, show, many, laugh

I words:

invitation(s), Isabel('s), Ibarra, inside, ink, invited, important, interesting, incredible, Ingrid, invisible, igloo, insect, iguana, India, Italy, impatient, it's, it'll, I'm, intelligent, Italian

Isabel's Invitation
A Read-Aloud Book
© 2002 Learning Page, Inc.
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It was an invitation. Isabel had never received an invitation before.

“Is this invitation really for me?” Isabel asked her big sister.

“It has your name on it. Look, ‘Miss Isabel Ibarra’ right here on the envelope.”

Inside the envelope was the invitation. Written in black ink were the words:

You are invited to an important exhibition.

*You will see many interesting
and incredible things.*

Only kids more than six years old are invited.

*Come to 36 Little Hill Lane
at six-thirty on the sixth of May.*

Bring this invitation with you.

“Ingrid and Tim Smith live at 36 Little Hill Lane. I wonder what tricks they are planning,” said Isabel.

“You’ll soon find out,” said Isabel’s sister.

“The sixth of May is tomorrow.”





The next day at six-thirty, fifteen children were waiting at the door of number 36 Little Hill Lane. They were all clutching pink invitations.

The door opened, and Tim Smith appeared. Tim was wearing a red robe, a false moustache, a black wig, and a funny hat.

“Today you will see many incredible things in our back yard,” Tim announced.

“We have an invisible igloo. We have the world’s biggest stick insect. We have an iguana so big it can eat dogs. We have a pink dog from India. Last, but not least, we have a giant from Italy,” said Tim.

“Okay, let us in so that we can see them all,” said an impatient little girl in the front.

“Not so fast,” said Tim. “You must pay my assistant fifteen cents each before you can see the show.”

Tim pointed to his sister, Ingrid, who was standing at the gate to their back yard.



Some of the kids drifted away when they heard Tim say they would have to pay fifteen cents. The children who stayed gave Ingrid their fifteen cents, and she let them into the back yard.

There were tents, made from old sheets, in different parts of the yard. Tim led the group of kids to the first tent. A notice outside said “INVISIBLE IGLOO.”



“Where’s the igloo?” asked Isabel.

“You can’t see it,” said Tim. “It’s invisible!”

Tim then pointed to a puddle of water in the grass. He pretended to look surprised and said, “Oh no! Look, the invisible igloo is melting.”



Tim then took the kids into the next tent. The notice said “WORLD’S BIGGEST STICK INSECT.” The stick insect was on a table.

“That’s not a stick insect—it’s just a twig from a tree. Make it move,” said Isabel.

“I can’t make it move,” said Tim. “It’s sleeping, and if I wake it, it’ll die of shock.”

They went on to the next tent. The notice outside this one said “DOG-EATING IGUANA.” Ingrid was in the tent, but there was no iguana.

“I’m sorry,” said Ingrid, “the pink dog just ate the iguana. The iguana tried to eat the pink dog, but the pink dog is no ordinary dog. He was too intelligent for the iguana. But you can see the pink dog in the next tent.”





The notice on the next tent said “PINK DOG FROM INDIA.”

“That looks like Chip, your sister’s dog,” said Isabel.

“He looks like Chip, because he’s Chip’s distant cousin from India,” said Tim.

Chip’s “cousin” started to lick his paw, and the pink on his paw started to turn white.

“Quickly,” said Tim, as he pushed the children out. “Let’s see the Italian giant.”

The notice on the next tent said “GIANT FROM ITALY.”

In the tent was a very big person. He looked as if he had a long sheet tied around his neck.

“Why is he wearing a sheet?” asked Isabel.

“It’s not a sheet—it’s called a toga. That’s what people wear in Italy,” answered Tim.



“He looks like your big brother,” said another girl.

“That’s because he’s part of our family that lives in Italy.”

Just then a noise came from the giant’s tummy. It sounded like “Owwww Ohhh no!”

The Italian giant started to wobble and then fell to the ground. The sheet opened to reveal Tim’s big brother on his friend’s shoulders.



“This is a trick,” shouted one of the kids.

“I want my fifteen cents back,” said Isabel.

Suddenly, there was a loud noise coming from the other side of the fence. It sounded like a saw cutting wood. Tim ran to the fence and looked through a hole. He started laughing. Ingrid looked too, and she started to laugh as well.



The other children wanted to know what Tim and Ingrid had seen.

When Tim stopped laughing, he said to the curious kids, “If I don’t have to give your fifteen cents back, I will let you look through the hole.”

All of the kids agreed, and they lined up at the fence. As each one finished looking through the hole, they laughed as loud as Tim and Ingrid had.



Isabel was last in line. She looked through the hole and started to laugh.

She saw a big dog, lying in a hammock.

He was sleeping soundly and snoring loudly enough to wake the dead.

“That was worth fifteen cents,” said Isabel, laughing loudly.

